

CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: 02 (12)

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1700388.010

Medium: Computer Image File

Publisher: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: English

Applicant: Commissioner of Police

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.
------------------------	---

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 07 August 2017

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 04 August 2017

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image is a cartoon depicting characters from 'The Simpsons' television show involved in a stereotypical and sexually explicit representation of a BDSM scenario. Unless restricted the image will be injurious to the public good. Children and teenagers are unlikely to possess the life experience to interpret the work as satirical and absurd, particularly given the sexually explicit nature of the depiction and the use of BDSM tropes which may be misinterpreted as sexually violent by younger viewers, leading to attitudinal harm around matters of sexual consent. As such the image is likely to negatively affect their expectations and socialisation around sex. The restriction to adults interferes with the right to freedom of expression affirmed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but is a reasonable limitation on that right in order to prevent injury to the public good.